

Amendments to the Drawings:

FIG. 3 has been amended to change the shape of blocks 50, 52 and 60; to revise the legend of block 56; and to remove a line from block 64 to block 56. The attached replacement sheet, which includes FIGs. 2 and 3, replaces the originally filed sheet that included FIGs. 2 and 3.

Attachments: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 1-6, 8-13 and 15-20 are pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended to include the requirement of canceled claim 7. Claim 8 has been amended to include the requirements of canceled claim 14. Claim 15 has been amended to specify that the means for determining a route for gathering requested information about a target in accordance with a collection policy, also responds to new sensor collection requests dynamically inserted into an existing collection plan. This new element of claim 15 is similar to the requirement of canceled claim 7. Claims 7 and 14 have been canceled.

In Section 1 of the Detailed Action portion of the Office Action, the drawings have been objected to because of minor informalities in FIG. 3. This objection is addressed in the enclosed amended FIG. 3, wherein decision blocks 50, 52 and 60 are diamond shaped; block 56 is labeled as "Get Next Target Or New Target"; and the feedback after block 64 has been removed. While the Office Action stated that block 62 should be triangular, the Applicants respectfully submit that since block 62 is not a decision block, it is properly shown as a rectangle.

In Section 3 of the Detailed Action portion of the Office Action, claims 1-6, 8-13 and 15-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Khvilivitzky (U.S. Patent 5,581,250). This rejection is traversed through the amendment of claims 1, 8 and 15.

In Section 4 of the Detailed Action portion of the Office Action, claims 7 and 14 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. With the above claim amendments, amended claim 1 is equivalent to claim 7 rewritten in independent form, and amended claim 8 is equivalent to claim 14 rewritten in independent form. Claim 15 has been amended to include the feature of original (allowable) claim 7. Since all remaining claims depend from claim 1, 8 or 15, the Applicants respectfully submit that all remaining claims are allowable.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in connection with this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (412) 263-4399 to discuss such matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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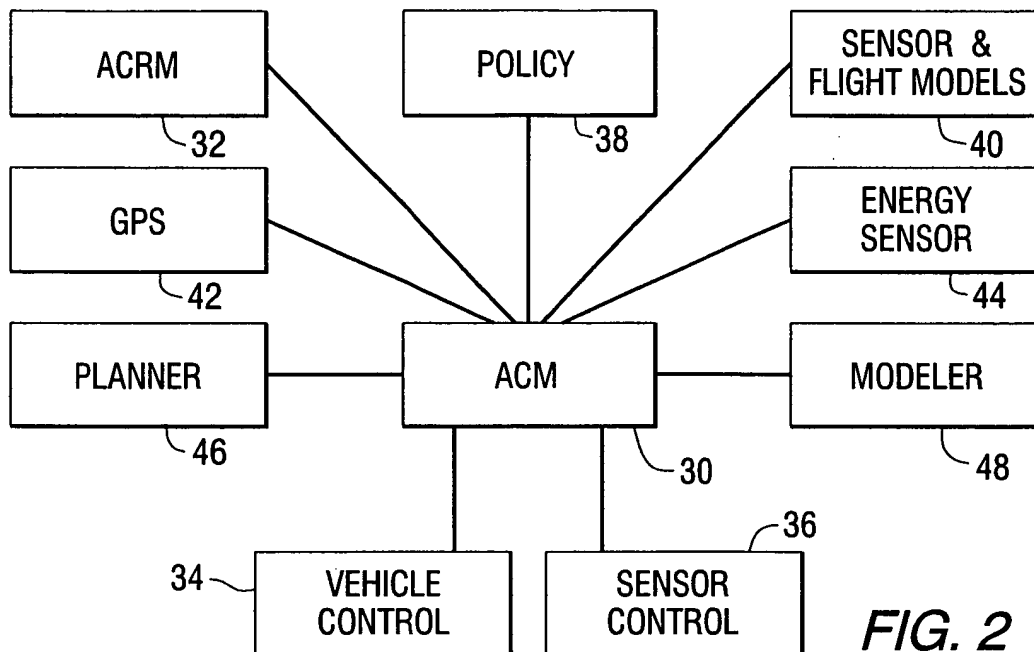


FIG. 2

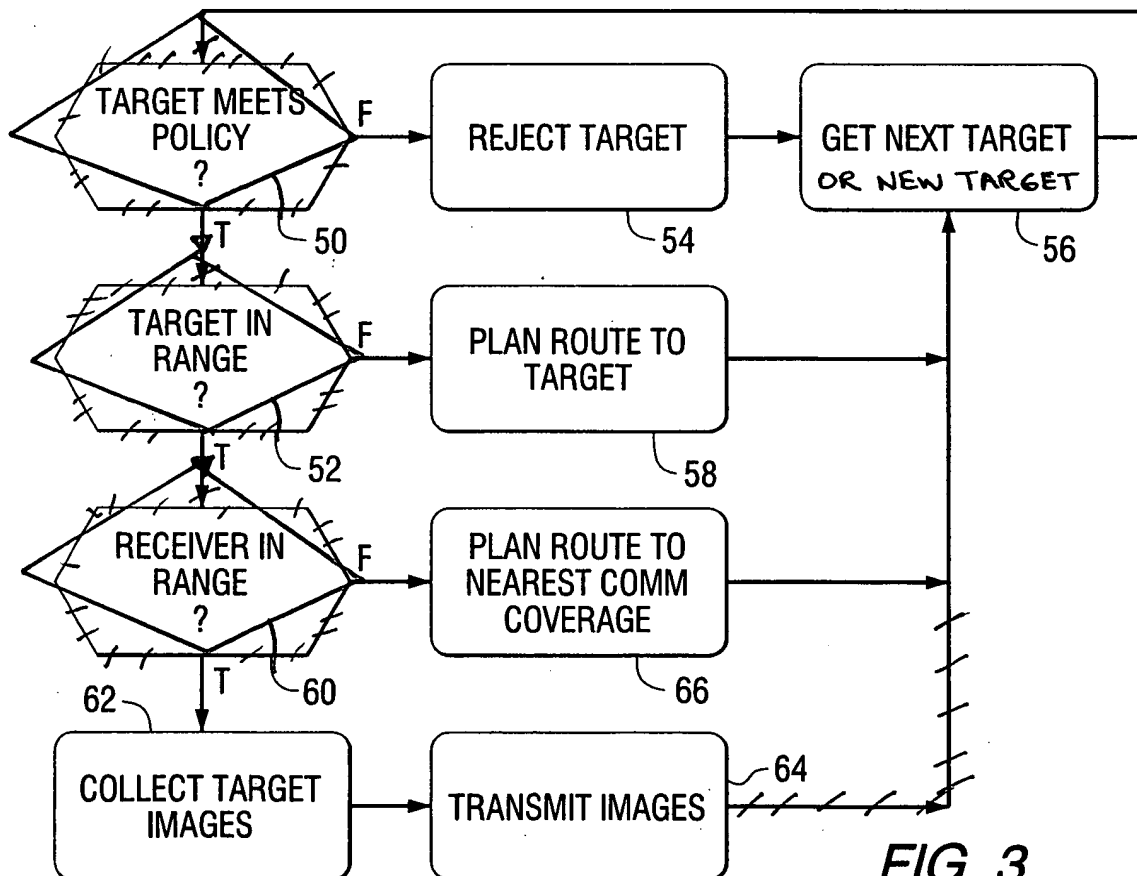


FIG. 3